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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR) **REPORT NO.** CS -311/14195-66

SUBJECT 1. Views of Soviet Official
on Arrests of Ukrainian
Intellectuals
2. Biographic Information
on Soviet Ukrainian
Writer **DATE DISTR.** 20 October 1966
NO. PAGES 1
REFERENCES (?) *me (m)*

DATE OF INFO. 1965-1966

PLACE & DATE ACQ. Mid-1966 **FIELD REPORT NO.**

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: A Western traveler from a Polish citizen who studied in the Ukraine during 1965-1966.

1. Soviet students in the Ukraine said that Vladimir Vasiliyevich Shcherbitskiy, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Ukrainian SSR, and a candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, was opposed to the arrest and persecution of young Ukrainian intellectuals. Shcherbitskiy had intervened with Soviet authorities on behalf of the Ukrainian intellectuals and particularly on behalf of the "Shestydesyatnyky" (writers of the 60's group). As a result, he was removed from his post. No official announcement was made, and he was reinstated after a period of about two months. His position was still somewhat precarious, however, and it would surprise nobody, according to the students, if he found himself in trouble again. While Aleksandr Yevdokimovich Kornevychuk, Secretary of the USSR Union of Writers, and other Ukrainian Party-liners officially criticized the young writers, the absence of any critical comments by Shcherbitskiy was further proof of his support of the writers. It was said that his defense of the young writers would not be forgotten by the authorities.
2. Shcherbitskiy was said to be in agreement with a distant relative, Pavlo Arkhipovich Zahrebelnyy, who has continually supported the "Shestydesyatnyky" and who has intervened on their behalf. Zahrebelnyy, born 25 August 1924 in Poltava Oblast, is a Soviet Ukrainian writer who in 1945 was a member of the Soviet Military Mission in West Germany. He presently is on the staff of Literaturna Ukraina. He has been Secretary of the Union of Writers of the Ukraine since 1965 and is a member of the CPSU.

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(Note: Field distribution indicated by "#")

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TOTALS	IE-2; CI-2; FI-3; DO/H-1; CA-4; SB-11(1)			LIAISON *			SB/CA	SD:SH:WE